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Zur Erklärung der Zweibuchstaben-Codes, und der anderen Abkürzungen wird auf die Erklärungen ("Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations") am Anfang jeder regulären Ausgabe der PCT-Gazette verwiesen.

(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED INDOLES FOR MODULATING NFKB ACTIVITY

(54) Bezeichnung: SUBSTITUIERTE INDOLE ZUR MODULIERUNG VON NFKB-AKTIVITÄT

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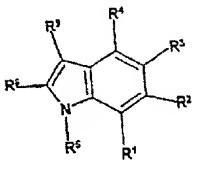


(I)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to compounds of formula (I) which are suitable for the production of medicaments for the prophylaxis and treatment of disease states, the course of which involves increased NFkB activity. The compounds are specific IkB-kinase inhibitors.

(57) Zusammenfassung: Verbindungen der Formel (I) eignen sich zur Herstellung von Arzneimitteln zur Prophylaxe und Therapie von Erkrankungen, an deren Verlauf eine verstärkte Aktivität von NFkB beteiligt ist. Die Verbindungen sind spezifische Inhibitoren der IkB-Kinase.

SUBSTITUTED INDOLES

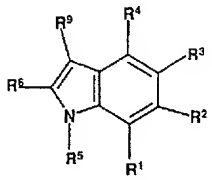
The invention relates to novel substituted indoles, to processes for their preparation and to their use as pharmaceuticals.

The application WO 94/12478 describes, inter alia, indole derivatives which inhibit blood platelet aggregation. WO 94/08962 describes fibrinogen receptor antagonists which inhibit fibrinogen binding and blood platelet aggregation.

NFκB is a heterodimeric transcription factor which can activate a large number of genes which code, inter alia, for proinflammatory cytokines such as IL-1, IL-2, TNFα or IL-6. NFκB is present in the cytosole of cells, complexed with its naturally occurring inhibitor IκB. The stimulation of cells, for example by cytokines, leads to the phosphorylation and subsequent proteolytic degradation of IκB. This proteolytic degradation leads to the activation of NFκB, which subsequently migrates into the nucleus of the cell and there activates a large number of proinflammatory genes.
In disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis (in the case of inflammation), osteoarthritis, asthma, cardiac infarct, Alzheimer's disease or atherosclerosis, NFκB is activated beyond the normal extent. The inhibition of NFκB is also of benefit in cancer therapy, since it is employed there for the reinforcement of the cytostatic therapy. It was possible to show that pharmaceuticals such as glucocorticoids, salicylates or gold salts, which are employed in rheumatic therapy, intervene in an inhibitory manner at various points in the NFκB-activating signal chain or interfere directly with the transcription of the genes.
The first step in the signal cascade mentioned is the degradation of IκB. This phosphorylation is regulated by the specific IκB kinase. To date, no inhibitors are known which specifically inhibit IκB kinase.

In an attempt to obtain active compounds for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (in the case of inflammation), osteoarthritis, asthma, cardiac infarct, Alzheimer's disease, carcinomateous disorders (potentiation of cytotoxic therapies) or atherosclerosis, it has now been found that the indole derivatives according to the invention are potent and very specific inhibitors of IκB kinase.

The invention therefore relates to the compounds of the formula I

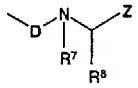


(I)

and/or a stereoisomeric form of the compound of the formula I and/or a physiologically acceptable salt of the compound of the formula I, where

each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen,

R^3 is a radical of the formula II



(II)

in which D is –C(O)-,

R^7 is hydrogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

R^8 is R^9 or the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, serine, tryptophan, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, histidine, arginine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, 2-aminoadipic acid, 2-aminoisobutyric acid, 2-aminobutyric acid, 2,3-diaminopropionic acid, 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxylic acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid, 2-aminopimelic acid, phenylglycine, 3-(2-thienyl)alanine, 3-(3-thienyl)alanine, 2-(2-thienyl)glycine, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, pipecolinic acid, hydroxylysine, sarcosine, N-methylisoleucine, 6-N-methyllysine, N-methylvaline, norvaline, norleucine, ornithine, allo-isoleucine, allo-threonine, allo-hydroxylysine, 4-hydroxyproline, 3-hydroxyproline, 3-(2-naphthyl)alanine, 3-(1-naphthyl)alanine, homophenylalanine, homocysteine, homocysteic acid, homotryptophan, cysteic acid, 3-(2-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(3-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(4-pyridyl)alanine,

2-amino-3-phenylaminopropionic acid, 2-amino-3-phenylaminoethylpropionic acid, phosphinothricine, 4-fluorophenylalanine, 3-fluorophenylalanine, 2-fluorophenylalanine, 4-chlorophenylalanine, 4-nitrophenylalanine, 4-aminophenylalanine, citrulline, cyclohexylalanine, 5-fluorotryptophan, 5-methoxytryptophan, methionine sulfone, methionine sulfoxide and $-NH-NR^{10}-C(O)N(R^{10})_2$,

R^9 is 1. aryl, where aryl is a radical selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, biphenylyl, anthryl or fluorenyl and the aryl radical is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted by identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkyl, $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, such as hydroxymethyl or 1-hydroxyethyl or 2-hydroxyethyl, methylenedioxy, ethylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy or tetrazolyl,

2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is a radial of a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic system having 5 to 14 ring members and containing 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S as ring members, where a plurality of heteroatoms may be identical or different and the heteroaryl radical is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted by identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkyl, $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, $-N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, methylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy and tetrazolyl,

3. a heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is a monocyclic or bicyclic 5-membered to 12-membered heterocyclic ring which is partially saturated or fully saturated and contains heteroatoms

selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and where the heterocycle is unsubstitued or substituted on one or more carbon atoms or on one or more heteroatoms by identical or different radicals selected from the consisting of $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkyl, $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, $-N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, methylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy and tetrazolyl, or

4. $-(C_1-C_6)$-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by

4.1 aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.2 heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.3 heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.4 $-O-R^{10}$,

4.5 =O,

4.6 halogen,

4.7 -CN,

4.8 $-CF_3$,

4.9 $-S(O)_x-R^{10}$, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,

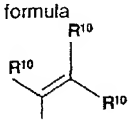
4.10 $-C(O)-O-R^{10}$,

4.11 $-C(O)-N(R^{10})_2$,

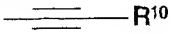
4.12 $-N(R^{10})_2$,

4.13 $-(C_3-C_6)$-cycloalkyl,

4.14 radical of the formula



4.15 radical of the formula



5. hydrogen,

R^{10} is
a) hydrogen,
b) -(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by
1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above,
4. halogen,
5. -N-(C_1-C_6)$_n$-alkyl, where n is the integer zero, 1 or 2 and alkyl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or by -COOH, or
6. -COOH,
c) aryl, where aryl is as defined above,
d) heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or
e) heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above, and,
in the case of $(R^{10})_2$ R^{10}, independently of one another, has the meaning of a) to e),

Z is
1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above, or
4. -C(O)-R^{11}, where

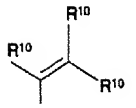
R^{11} is
1. –O-R^{10} or
2. –N(R^{10})$_2$, or

R^5 is 1. hydrogen,
2. -OH or
3. =O, and

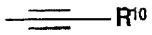
R^6 is 1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above.

A preferred compound of the formula I is one where
each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen,
R^3 is a radical of the formula II, in which
D is -C(O)-,
R^7 is hydrogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

R^8 is 1. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by
1.1 heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members or heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heteroaryl and heterocycle were selected from the group consisting of pyrrole, pyridine, pyrazine, furan, thiophen, imidazole, pyrazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, tetrazole, triazolones, 1,2,3,5-oxathiadiazole 2-oxides, oxadiazolones, isoxazolones, oxadiazolidindiones, triazoles, which are substituted by F, -CN, -CF_3 or -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, 3-hydroxypyrro-2,4-diones, 5-oxo-1,2,4-thiadiazoles, pyrimidine, indole, isoindole, indazole, phthalazine, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, -carboline and benzo-fused, cyclopenta-, cyclohexa- and cycloheptafused derivatives of these heterocycles derived,
1.2 -O-R^{10},
1.3 -$S(O)_x$-R^{10}, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,
1.4 -$N(R^{10})_2$,
1.5 radical of the formula



or

1.6 radical of the formula 

or

2. is the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of histidine, tryptophan, serine, threanine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid,

R^9 is 1. R^8,

2. is -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is, independently of one another, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by

2.1 aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1 and is unsubstituted or substituted as in claim 1,

2.2 halogen,

2.3 –CN or

2.4 $-CF_3$,

3. aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1 and is unsubstituted or substituted as in claim 1, or

4. hydrogen,

R^{10} is a) hydrogen,

b) -(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by

1. aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above,
4. halogen,
5. -N-(C_1-C_6)$_n$-alkyl, where n is the integer zero, 1 or 2 and alkyl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or

trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or by –C(O)-OH, or

6. -C(O)-OH,

c) aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1,

d) heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or

e) heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above, and,

in the case of $(R^{10})_2$, R^{10}, independently of one another, has the meaning of a) to e),

Z is 1. 1,3,4-oxadiazole, where 1,3,4-oxadiazole is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted by $-NH_2$, OH or $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl or

2. $-C(O)-R^{11}$, in which

R^{11} is 1. $-O-R^{10}$ or

2. $-N(R^{10})_2$, or

R^5 is hydrogen and

R^6 is 1. phenyl, mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by

1.1 -CN,

1.2 $-CF_3$ or

1.3 halogen,

1.4 $-O-R^{10}$,

1.5 $-N(R^{10})_2$,

1.6 $-NH-C(O)-R^{11}$,

1.7 $-S(O)_x-R^{10}$, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,

1.8 $-C(O)-R^{11}$ or

1.9 $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl-NH_2 ,

2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by the substituents defined above under 1.1 to 1.9 or

3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by the substituents defined above under 1.1 to 1.9.

A particularly preferred compound of the formula I is one wherein each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen,

R^3 is a radical of the formula II, in which

D is -C(O)-,

R^7 is hydrogen,

Z is -C(O)-OH or -C(O)-NH_2,

R^8 is 1. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by

1.1 -S(O)-R^{10}, where R^{10} is as defined below,

1.2 -N(R^{10})$_2$, where R^{10} is as defined below, or

1.3 pyrrole or

2. is the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of histidine, tryptophan, serine, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid,

R^9 is 1. hydrogen,

2. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl. where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono-, di- or trisubstituted,

independently of one another, by –C(O)-OH, -OH or -C(O)-NH_2, or

3. phenyl, where phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or –(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

R^{10} is a) hydrogen,

b) -(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen,

c) phenyl, where phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

R^5 is hydrogen, and

R^6 is phenyl or pyridine.

The term "halogen" is understood as meaning fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine. The terms "(C_1-C_8)-alkyl", "(C_1-C_6)-alkyl" or "(C_1-C_4)-alkyl" are understood as meaning hydrocarbon radicals whose carbon chain is straight-chain or branched and contains 1 to 8, 1 to 6 and 1 to 4 carbon atoms, respectively. Cyclic alkyl radicals are, for example, 3- to 6-membered monocycles such as cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl.

The term "R^7 and R^8 form, together with the nitrogen atom and carbon atom to which they are each bonded, a heterocyclic ring of the formula IIa", is understood as meaning radicals which are derived from pyrrole, pyrroline, pyrrolidine, imidazole, pyrazole, oxazole, isoxazole, tetrazole, isoxazoline, isoxazolidine, morpholine, thiazole, isothiazole, isothiazoline, purine, isothiazolidine, thiomorpholine, pyridine, piperidine, pyrazine, piperazine, pyrimidine, pyridazine, indole, isoindole, indazole, benzimidazole, phthalazine, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, pteridine, triazolones, tetrazole, 1,2,3,5-oxathiadiazole 2-oxides, oxadiazolones, isoxazolones, oxadiazolidinediones, triazoles, which are substituted by F, -CN, $-CF_3$ or $-C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl, 3-hydroxypyrrole-2,4-diones, 5-oxo-1,2,4-thiadiazoles, imidazolidine, carboline and benzo-fused derivatives of these heterocycles.

The term aryl is understood as meaning aromatic hydrocarbon radicals having 6 to 14 carbon atoms in the ring. (C_6-C_{14})-Aryl radicals are, for example, phenyl, naphthyl, for example 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, biphenylyl, for example 2-biphenylyl, 3-biphenylyl and 4-biphenylyl, anthryl or fluorenyl. Biphenylyl radicals, naphthyl radicals and, in particular, phenyl radicals are preferred aryl radicals. Aryl radicals, in particular phenyl radicals, can be monosubstituted or polysubstituted, preferably monosubstituted, disubstituted or trisubstituted, by identical or different radicals, preferably by radicals from the group consisting of (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_8)-alkoxy, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl such as hydroxymethyl or 1-hydroxyethyl or 2-hydroxyethyl, methylenedioxy, ethylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy, tetrazolyl. The same applies, for example, to radicals such as arylalkyl or arylcarbonyl. Arylalkyl radicals are, in particular, benzyl and also 1- and 2-naphthylmethyl, 2-, 3- and 4-biphenylylmethyl and 9-fluorenylmethyl. Substituted arylalkyl radicals are, for example, benzyl radicals and naphthylmethyl radicals substituted in the aryl moiety by one or more (C_1-C_8)-alkyl radicals, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkyl radicals, for example 2-, 3- and 4-methylbenzyl, 4-isobutylbenzyl, 4-tert-butylbenzyl, 4-octylbenzyl, 3,5-dimethylbenzyl, pentamethylbenzyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-methyl-1-naphthylmethyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- and 8-methyl-2-naphthylmethyl, by one or more (C_1-C_8)-alkoxy radicals, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy radicals, benzyl radicals and naphthylmethyl radicals substituted in the aryl moiety, for example 4-methoxybenzyl, 4-neopentyloxybenzyl, 3,5-dimethoxybenzyl, 3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl, 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzyl, nitrobenzyl radicals, for example 2-, 3- and 4-nitrobenzyl, halobenzyl radicals, for example 2-, 3- and 4-chloro- and 2-, 3- and 4-fluorobenzyl, 3,4-dichlorobenzyl, pentafluorobenzyl, trifluoromethylbenzyl radicals, for example 3- and 4-trifluoromethylbenzyl or 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl.

In monosubstituted phenyl radicals, the substituent can be located in the 2-position, the 3-position or the 4-position. Disubstituted phenyl can be substituted in the 2,3-position, the 2,4-position, the 2,5-position, the 2,6-position, the 3,4-position or the 3,5-position. In trisubstituted phenyl radicals, the substituents can be located in the 2,3,4-position, the 2,3,5-position, the 2,4,5-position, the 2,4,6-position, the 2,3,6-position or the 3,4,5-position.

The explanations for the aryl radicals apply accordingly to divalent arylene radicals, for example to phenylene radicals which can be present, for example, as 1,4-phenylene or as 1,3-phenylene.

Phenylene-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl is in particular phenylenemethyl (-C_6H_4-CH_2-) and phenyleneethyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkylenephenyl is in particular methylenephenyl (-CH_2-C_6H_4-). Phenylene-(C_2-C_6)-alkenyl is in particular phenyleneethenyl and phenylenepropenyl.

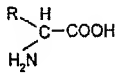
The expression "heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members" represents a radical of a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic system having 5 to 14 ring members, which contains 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 heteroatoms as ring members. Examples of heteroatoms are N, O and S. If a number of heteroatoms are contained, these can be identical or different. Heteroaryl radicals can likewise be monosubstituted or polysubstituted, preferably monosubstituted, disubstituted or trisubstituted, by identical or different radicals from the group consisting of (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_8)-alkoxy, in particular (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, -$N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl such as hydroxymethyl or 1-hydroxyethyl or 2-hydroxyethyl, methylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy, tetrazolyl. Heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members preferably represents a monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic radical which contains 1, 2, 3 or 4, in particular 1, 2 or 3, identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S and which can be substituted by 1, 2, 3 or 4, in particular 1 to 3, identical or different substituents from the group consisting of (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkoxy, fluorine, chlorine, nitro, -$N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy and benzyl. Heteroaryl particularly preferably represents a monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic radical having 5 to 10 ring members, in particular a 5-membered or 6-membered monocyclic aromatic radical which contains 1, 2 or 3, in particular 1 or 2, identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S and can be substituted by 1 or 2 identical or different substituents from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, halogen, hydroxyl, -$N(R^{10})_2$, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy and benzyl.

The expression "heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members" represents a monocyclic or bicyclic 5-membered to 12-membered heterocyclic ring which is partly saturated or completely saturated. Examples of heteroatoms are N, O and S. The heterocycle is unsubstituted or substituted on one or more carbon atoms or on one or more heteroatoms by identical or different substituents. These substituents have been defined above for the radical heteroaryl. In particular, the heterocyclic ring is monosubstituted or polysubstituted, for example monosubstituted, disubstituted, trisubstituted or tetrasubstituted, on carbon atoms by identical or different radicals from the group consisting of (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, for example (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_8)-alkoxy, for example (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy such as methoxy, phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, for example benzyloxy, hydroxyl, oxo, halogen, nitro, amino or trifluoromethyl and/or it is substituted on the ring nitrogen atom(s) in the heterocyclic ring by (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, for example (C_1-C_4)-alkyl such as methyl or ethyl, by optionally substituted phenyl or phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, for example benzyl. Nitrogen heterocycles can also be present as N-oxides or as quaternary salts.

Examples of the expressions heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members or heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members are radicals which are derived from pyrrole, furan, thiophene, imidazole, pyrazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, tetrazole, 1,2,3,5-oxathiadiazole 2-oxides, triazolones, oxadiazolones, isoxazolones, oxadiazolidinediones, triazoles, which are substituted by F, -CN, -CF_3 or –C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, 3-hydroxypyrrole-2,4-diones, 5-oxo-1,2,4-thiadiazoles, pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, indole, isoindole, indazole, phthalazine, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, carboline and benzo-fused, cyclopenta-, cyclohexa- or cycloheptа-fused derivatives of these heterocycles. Particularly preferred radicals are 2- or 3-pyrrolyl, phenylpyrrolyl such as 4- or 5-phenyl-2-pyrrolyl, 2-furyl, 2-thienyl, 4-imidazolyl, methylimidazolyl, for example 1-methyl-2-, -4- or -5-imidazolyl, 1,3-thiazol-2-yl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl-N-oxide, 2-pyrazinyl, 2-, 4- or 5-pyrimidinyl, 2-, 3- or 5-indolyl, substituted 2-indolyl, for example 1-methyl-, 5-methyl-, 5-methoxy-, 5-benzyloxy-, 5-chloro- or 4,5-dimethyl-2-indolyl, 1-benzyl-2- or -3-indolyl, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2-indolyl, cyclohepta[b]-5-pyrrolyl, 2-, 3- or 4-quinolyl, 1-, 3- or 4-isoquinolyl, 1-oxo-1,2-dihydro-3-isoquinolyl, 2-quinoxalinyl, 2-benzofuranyl, 2-benzothienyl, 2-benzoxazolyl or benzothiazolyl or dihydropyridinyl, pyrrolidinyl, for example 2- or

3-(N-methylpyrrolidinyl), piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, tetrahydrothienyl or benzodioxolanyl.

The structural formula of α-amino acids is as follows:



The α-amino acids differ from one another by the radical R, which in the context of the present application is described as a "characteristic radical" of an amino acid.

In the case where R^8 is the characteristic radical of an amino acid, the characteristic radicals employed are preferably those of the following naturally occurring α-amino acids: glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, serine, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, histidine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid. Those particularly preferred are histidine, tryptophan, serine, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid. Preferred characteristic radicals of an amino acid which are furthermore employed as the radical R^8 are also non-naturally occurring amino acids such as 2-aminoadipic acid, 2-aminobutyric acid, 2-aminoisobutyric acid, 2,3-diaminopropionic acid, 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxylic acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid, 2-aminopimelic acid, phenylglycine, 3-(2-thienyl)alanine, 3-(3-thienyl)alanine, 2-(2-thienyl)-glycine, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, pipecolic acid, hydroxylysine, sarcosine, N-methylisoleucine, 6-N-methyllysine, N-methylvaline, norvaline, norleucine, ornithine, allo-isoleucine, allo-threonine, allo-hydroxylysine, 4-hydroxyproline, 3-hydroxyproline, 3-(2-naphthyl)alanine, 3-(1-naphthyl-alanine), homophenylalanine, homocysteine, homocysteic acid, homotryptophan, cysteic acid, 3-(2-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(3-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(4-pyridyl)alanine, 2-amino-3-phenylaminopropionic acid, 2-amino-3-phenylaminoethylpropionic acid, phosphinothricine, 4-fluorophenylalanine, 3-fluorophenylalanine, 4-fluorophenylalanine, 3-fluorophenylalanine, 3-fluorophenylalanine, 2-fluorophenylalanine, 4-chlorophenylalanine, 4-nitrophenylalanine, 4-aminophenylalanine, cyclohexylalanine, citrulline, 5-fluorotryptophan, 5-methoxytryptophan, methionine sulfone, methionine sulfoxide or -NH-NR^{10}-CON(R^{10})$_2$, which are optionally also substituted. In

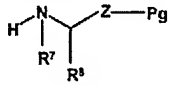
the case of natural but also of non-naturally occurring amino acids which have a functional group such as amino, hydroxyl, carboxyl, mercapto, guanidyl, imidazolyl or indolyl, this group can also be protected.

Suitable protective groups for this are preferably the N-protective groups customarily used in peptide chemistry, for example protective groups of the urethane type, benzyloxycarbonyl (Z), t-butoxycarbonyl (Boc), 9-fluorenyl-oxycarbonyl (Fmoc), allyloxycarbonyl (Aloc) or of the acid amide type, in particular formyl, acetyl or trifluoroacetyl, and of the alkyl type, for example benzyl. In the case of an imidazole radical in R^8, for example, the sulfonic acid derivative of the formula IV employed for the sulfonamide formation is used as a protective group of the imidazole nitrogen, which can be removed again, in particular in the presence of bases such as aqueous sodium hydroxide solution.

The starting substances for the chemical reactions are known or can be easily prepared by methods known from the literature.

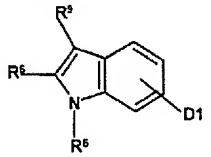
The invention further relates to a process for preparing compounds of the formula I and/or a stereoisomeric form of the compound of the formula I and/or of a physiologically acceptable salt of the compound of the formula I, which comprises

a) reacting a compound of the formula IV,



(IV)

in which Pg is a suitable protective group (for example methyl ester), an amide group or a hydroxyl group and Z, R^7 and R^8 are as defined in formula I, with an acyl chloride or an activated ester of the compound of the formula III,

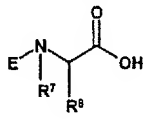


(III)

where D1 is –COOH or sulfonyl halogen and R^5, R^6 and R^9 are as defined in formula I, in the presence of a base or, if appropriate, of a

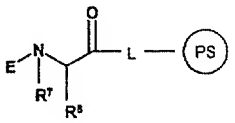
dehydrating agent in solution and, after removal of the protective group, converting into a compound of the formula I, or

b) reacting a compound of the formula IVa,



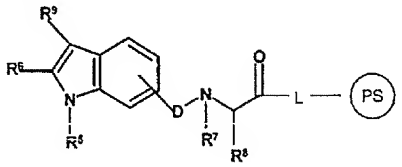
(IVa)

in which R^7 and R^8 are as defined in formula I and E is an N-amino protective group, with its carbonyl group coupled via an intermediate chain L to a polymeric resin of the formula PS, a compound of the formula V



(V)

resulting, which, after selective removal of the protective group E, is reacted with a compound of the formula III, where R^5, R^6 and R^9 are as defined in formula I, in the presence of a base or, if appropriate, of a dehydrating agent to give a compound of the formula VI



(VI)

and converting the compound of the formula VI, after cleavage from the support material, into a compound of the formula I, or

c) converting a compound of the formula I into a physiologically acceptable salt.

In process variant a), the acid functions of the compounds of the formula IVa are provided with a protective group Pg; this selective carboxylic acid derivatization is carried out according to methods such as are described in Houben-Weyl "Methoden der Org. Chemie" [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Volume 15/1. In process variant b), the amino functions of the

starting compounds of the formula IVa are provided with a protective group E; this selective amino groups derivatization is carried out according to methods such as are described in Houben-Weyl "Methoden der Org. Chemie" [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Volume 15/1.

A suitable protective group Pg preferably used for this is the carboxyl protective groups customary in peptide chemistry, for example protective groups of the alkyl ester type, such as methyl, ethyl, tert-butyl, isopropyl, benzyl, fluorenylmethyl, allyl, aryl ester type, such as phenyl, amide type, such as amide or benzhydrylamine. Suitable protective groups E used for this are preferably the N-protective groups customary in peptide chemistry, for example protective groups of the urethane type, such as benzyloxycarbonyl (Z), t-butoxycarbonyl (Boc), 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl (Fmoc) and allyloxycarbonyl (Aloc) or of the acid amide type, in particular formyl, acetyl or trifluoroacetyl of alkyl type such as benzyl.

The (trimethylsilyl)ethoxycarbonyl (Teoc) group has also proven particularly suitable for this (P. Kociénski, Protecting Groups, Thieme Verlag 1994).

The indolecarboxylic acid derivatives were prepared following a method described in Houben-Weyl "Methoden der Org. Chemie" [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Volume E6-2A and E6-2B. Thus, for preparing the indolecarboxylic acid derivatives of the formula III, preference is given to reacting hydrazinobenzoic acids and aryl ketones or heteroaryl ketones in the presence of polyphosphoric acid as solvent at 145°C. The hydrazinobenzoic acids required are prepared by methods known to the person skilled in the art, for example from the corresponding benzoic acid anilines. Aryl ketones or heteroaryl ketones are likewise prepared by methods familiar to the person skilled in the art, for example, from the corresponding acyl chlorides or nitriles by reaction with, for example, organometallic compounds.

For the condensation of the compounds of the formula IV with those of the formula III, the coupling methods which are well-known per se to the person skilled in the art are advantageously used (see, for example, Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie [Methods of Organic Chemistry], Volume 15/1 and 15/2, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1974). Suitable condensing agents or coupling reagents are compounds such as carbonyldiimidazole, carbodiimides such as dicyclohexylcarbodiimide or diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC), O-((cyano(ethoxycarbonyl)methylene)-

amino)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate (TOTU) or propanephosphonic anhydride (PPA).

The condensations can be carried out under standard conditions. During the condensation, as a rule it is necessary for the non-reacting amino groups present to be protected by reversible protective groups. The same applies to carboxyl groups not involved in the reaction, which during the condensation are preferably present as (C_1-C_6)-alkyl esters, benzyl esters or tert-butyl esters. Amino group protection is unnecessary if the amino groups are still present in the form of precursors such as nitro groups or cyano groups and are only formed by hydrogenation after the condensation. After the condensation, the protective groups present are removed in a suitable manner. For example, NO_2 groups (guanidino protection in amino acids), benzyloxycarbonyl groups and benzyl groups in benzyl esters can be removed by hydrogenation. The protective groups of the tert-butyl type are removed acidically, while the 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl radical is removed by secondary amines.

The polymeric support designated in the formulae V and VI by PS is a crosslinked polystyrene resin having a linker designated as the intermediate chain **L**. This linker carries a suitable functional group, for example amine, known, for example, as Rink amide resin, or an OH group, known, for example, as Wang resin or Kaiser's oxime resin. Alternatively, other polymeric supports such as glass, cotton or cellulose having various intermediate chains L can be employed.
The intermediate chain designated by L is covalently bonded to the polymeric support and allows a reversible, amide-like or ester-like bond with the compound of the formula IVa, which remains stable during the further reaction on the bonded compound of the formula IVa; but under strongly acidic reaction conditions, e.g. mixtures with trifluoroacetic acid, releases the group located on the linker again.
The release of the desired compound of the formula I from the linker can be carried out at various positions in the reaction sequence.

A. General procedure for the coupling of protected aminocarboxylic acids of the formula IVa to the solid support:

The synthesis was carried out in reactors each having a reaction volume of 15 ml. Each of the reactors was filled with 0.179 g of Rink amide AM resin

(Fmoc-Rink amide AM/Nova-Biochem; loading 0.56 mmol/g; i.e. 0.1 mmol/reactor). For the removal of the Fmoc protective group from the resin, a 30% strength piperidine/DMF solution was metered into each reactor and the mixture was shaken for 45 minutes (min). It was then filtered and the resin was washed 3 times with dimethylformamide (DMF).

For the coupling of the protected amino acid, a 0.5 molar solution of the corresponding Fmoc-amino acid (0.3 mmol in DMF), a solution of HOBt (0.33 mmol in DMF) and a solution of DIC (0.33 mmol in DMF) were each added to the resin thus prepared and the mixture was shaken at 35°C for 16 hours (h). The resin was then washed with DMF a number of times.

To check the coupling, a few resin beads were removed and subjected to a KAISER test; in all cases the test was negative.

The removal of the Fmoc protective group was carried out, as mentioned above, using 30% strength piperidine/DMF solution.

For the coupling of the benzimidazolecarboxylic acids, a 0.1 molar solution of the corresponding 4- or 5-substituted acid (0.4 mmol in DMF); a 0.5 molar solution of the coupling reagent TOTU (0.44 mmol in DMF) and a 0.5 molar solution of DIPEA (0.6 mmol in DMF) were added and the mixture was shaken at 40°C for 16 hours. It was then washed a number of times with DMF.

To check the reaction, a few beads of resin were again removed and subjected to a KAISER test.

For the removal of the desired substances from the solid support, the resin was washed a number of times with dichloromethane. The cleavage solution (50% dichloromethane and 50% of a mixture of 95% TFA, 2% H_2O, 3% triisopropylsilane) was then added and the mixture was shaken at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness. The residue was precipitated with diethyl ether and filtered.

The solid residues usually contained the desired products in high purity or were fractionated, for example, on a reverse phase (eluent: A: H_2O/0.1% TFA, B: acetonitrile/0.1% TFA) using preparative high-pressure liquid chromatography. Lyophilization of the fractions obtained yielded the desired products.

The preparation of physiologically acceptable salts of compounds of the formula I capable of salt formation, including their stereoisomeric forms, is carried out in a manner known per se. With basic reagents such as

hydroxides, carbonates, hydrogencarbonates, alkoxides and also ammonia or organic bases, for example trimethyl- or triethylamine, ethanolamine or triethanolamine or alternatively basic amino acids, for example lysine, ornithine or arginine, the carboxylic acids form stable alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or optionally substituted ammonium salts. If the compounds of the formula I contain basic groups, stable acid addition salts can also be prepared using strong acids. For this, both inorganic and organic acids such as hydrochloric, hydrobromic, sulfuric, phosphoric, methanesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, p-toluenesulfonic, 4-bromobenzenesulfonic, cyclohexyl-amidosulfonic, trifluoromethylsulfonic, acetic, oxalic, tartaric, succinic or trifluoroacetic acid are suitable.

The invention also relates to pharmaceuticals which comprise an efficacious amount of at least one compound of the formula I and/or of a physiologically tolerable salt of the compounds of the formula I and/or an optionally stereoisomeric form of the compounds of the formula I, together with a pharmaceutically suitable and physiologically tolerable excipient, additive and/or other active compounds and auxiliaries.

On account of the pharmacological properties, the compounds according to the invention are suitable for the prophylaxis and therapy of all those disorders in whose course an increased activity of IkB kinase is involved. These include, for example, chronic disorders of the locomotor apparatus, such as inflammatory, immunological or metabolic acute and chronic arthritic disorders, arthropathies, rheumatoid arthritis, or degenerative joint disorders, such as osteoarthroses, spondyloses, cartilage breakdown following joint trauma or prolonged immobilization of a joint after meniscus or patella injuries or desmorrhexis or disorders of the connective tissue, such as collagenoses and periodontal disorders, myalgias and disturbances of the bone metabolism, or disorders caused by overexpression of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNFα) or increased concentration of TNFα, such as cachexia, multiple sclerosis, skull-brain trauma, Crohn's disease and intestinal tumors, or disorders such as atherosclerosis, stenoses, ulceration, Alzheimer's disease, muscle wasting, carcinomatous disorders (potentiation of therapies with cytotoxic compounds), myocardial infarction, gout, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic shock, viral infections, such as flu, hepatitis, HIV infections, AIDS, or disorders caused by adenoviruses or herpes viruses, parasitic infections, such as malaria or leprosy, fungal infections or yeast infections, meningitis,

chronic inflammatory lung diseases, such as chronic bronchitis or asthma, acute respiratory distress syndrome, acute synovitis, tuberculosis, psoriasis, diabetes, treatment of acute or chronic rejection responses of the organ recipient to the transplanted organ, chronic graft-versus-host disorders and inflammatory vascular disorders.

The pharmaceuticals according to the invention are in general administered orally or parenterally. Rectal or transdermal administration is also possible.

The invention also relates to a process for the production of a pharmaceutical, which comprises bringing at least one compound of the formula I into a suitable administration form using a pharmaceutically suitable and physiologically tolerable excipient and, if appropriate, further suitable active compounds, additives or auxiliaries.

Suitable solid or pharmaceutical preparation forms are, for example, granules, powders, coated tablets, tablets, (micro)capsules, suppositories, syrups, juices, suspensions, emulsions, drops or injectable solutions, and preparations having protracted release of active compound, in whose preparation customary auxiliaries, such as excipients, disintegrants, binders, coating agents, swelling agents, glidants or lubricants, flavorings, sweeteners and solubilizers are used. Frequently used auxiliaries which may be mentioned are magnesium carbonate, titanium dioxide, lactose, mannitol and other sugars, talc, lactoprotein, gelatin, starch, cellulose and its derivatives, animal and vegetable oils such as cod liver oil, sunflower, groundnut or sesame oil, polyethylene glycol and solvents such as, for example, sterile water and mono- or polyhydric alcohols such as glycerol. The pharmaceutical preparations are preferably produced and administered in dose units, each unit containing as active constituent a certain dose of the compound of the formula I according to the invention. In the case of solid dose units such as tablets, capsules, coated tablets or suppositories, this dose can be up to approximately 1000 mg, preferably from approximately 50 mg to 300 mg and in the case of injection solutions in ampoule form up to approximately 300 mg, preferably from approximately 10 mg to 100 mg. For the treatment of an adult patient weighing approximately 70 kg, depending on the efficacy of the compound according to formula I, daily doses of approximately 20 mg to 1000 mg of active compound, preferably from approximately 100 mg to 500 mg, are indicated. Under certain circumstances, however, even higher or lower

daily doses may be appropriate. The administration of the daily dose can be carried out both by single administration in the form of an individual dose unit or else of a number of smaller dose units and by multiple administration of subdivided doses at specific intervals.

As a rule, final products are determined by mass-spectroscopic methods (FAB-, ESI-MS). Temperatures are given in degrees Celsius, RT means room temperature (22-26°C). Abbreviations used are either explained or correspond to the customary conventions.

Examples

Preparation of substituted indolecarboxylic acids

Process variant A) 2,3-Diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid:

1.96 g (10 mmol) of deoxybenzoin and 1.52 g of 4-hydrazinobenzoic acid were ground in a mortar and then fused in an open flask at 160°C for 15 minutes (min). The cooled melt was admixed with 100 ml of acetic acid and 30 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid and heated under reflux for 3 hours (h). The cooled solution was admixed with water, resulting in the precipitation of the product 2,3-diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid. The product was filtered off with suction and the residue was washed with water and dried. For purification, the crude product was stirred with warm toluene, filtered off with suction and dried again. This gave 2,3-diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid.

Process variant B)

2-Pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid:

20 g of P_2O_5 were admixed with 12.5 ml of H_3PO_4 (85%), resulting in a strong increase of the temperature of the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was then cooled to 60°C, and 8.90 g (65.84 mmol) of 4-propionylpyridine and 4.20 g (27.60 mmol) of 4-hydrazinobenzoic acid were added. The mixture was then stirred at 145°C for 45 min. The reaction mixture was poured into water, resulting in the precipitation of the yellow product 2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid. This precipitate was filtered off with suction and washed with water until neutral. The 2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid, which was obtained by this method in quantitative yield, was used without further purification for coupling with amino acid derivatives.

Coupling of amino acid derivatives with substituted indolecarboxylic acid derivatives.
Process variant C)

Example 1
N-(1-Carbamoyl-3-phenylpropyl)-2,3-diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxamide:
0.16 g (0.5 mmol) of 2,3-diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid (see process variant A) was dissolved at RT in 10 ml of dry dimethylformamide (DMF) and admixed successively with 0.11 g (0.5 mmol) of L-homophenylalaninamide hydrochloride, 0.16 g of TOTU (O-[(cyano(ethoxycarbonyl)-methylidene)amino-1,1,3,3-tetramethyl]uronium tetrafluoroborate) and 0.14 ml (1 mmol) of diisopropylamine. The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 6 h and then concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed successively with water, saturated sodium carbonate solution, water and saturated sodium chloride solution, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. This gave N-(1-carbamoyl-3-phenylpropyl)-2,3-diphenyl-1H-indole-5-carboxamide of melting point 120°C to 125°C.

Example 7:
N-(1-Carbamoyl-3-pyrrol-1-ylpropyl)-3-methyl-2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxamide
0.13 g (0.5 mmol) of 3-methyl-2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid (see process variant A) was dissolved at RT in 10 ml of dry dimethyl formamide (DMF) and mixed successively with 0.083 g (0.5 mmol) of 4-(1-pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobutyramide, 0.16 g (0.5 mmol) of TOTU (O[(cyano(ethoxycarbonyl)methylidene)amino-1,1,3,3,-tetramethyl] uronium tetrafluoroborate) and 0.14 ml (1 mmol) of ethyl diisopropylamine. The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 6 h and then concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed successively with water, saturated sodium carbonate solution, water and saturated sodium chloride solution, dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification was carried out by prep. HPLC.

a: 4-(1-Pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobutyric acid
A solution, flushed with argon, of 1.25 g (5.0 mmol) of N_{α}-Z-L-2,4-diaminobutyric acid in 60 ml of water was admixed with 0.66 g (5.0 mmol)

of 2,5-dimethoxytetrahydrofuran, followed by addition of 1.7 ml of glacial acetic acid, and the mixture was stirred at 20°C for 12 h. The reaction mixture was extracted repeatedly with ethyl acetate, the organic phases were combined and dried with sodium sulfate and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel (CH_2Cl_2 / CH_3OH / CH_3COOH : 100 / 5 / 1). Removal of the mobile phase gave 1.3 g (87%) of 4-(1-pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobutyric acid.

b: 4-(1-Pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobutyramide

1.2 g (4.0 mmol) of 4-(1-pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobutyric acid and 0.61 g (4.0 mmol) of N-hydroxybenzotriazole ammonium salt, were dissolved together in 10 ml of DMF, admixed at 0°C with 0.82 g (4.0 mmol) of N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and 0.68 ml (4.0 mmol) of N-ethyldiisopropylamine, and the mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 min and at 20°C for 3 h. The precipitated urea was filtered off with suction and the filtrate was concentrated to dryness under reduced pressure.

The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 / CH_3OH / CH_3COOH : 100 / 5 / 1). Yield: 0.89 g (74%).

c: 4-(1-Pyrrolyl)-L-2-aminobutyramide

Under inert gas, 0.80 g (2.65 mmol) of 4-(1-pyrrolyl)-L-2-benzyloxy-carbonylaminobutyramide, dissolved in 20 ml of methanol, was admixed with 80 mg of catalyst (10% Pd-C), and hydrogen was then introduced until the Z protective group had been cleaved off completely. The catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated, giving 0.4 g (90.5%) of 4-(1-pyrrolyl)-L-2-aminobutyramide.

2. Process variant D)

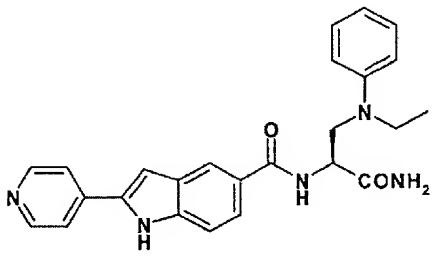
Example 3:

N-(1-carbamoyl-2-phenylsulfanylethyl)-2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carbox-amide

0.20 g (0.84 mmol) of 2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid was admixed with 0.21 g (1.07 mmol) of 2-amino-3-phenylsulfanylpropionic acid in 40 ml of DMF and, at 0°C, 0.66 g (1.27 mmol) of benzotriazol-1-yloxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate and 0.37 ml (2.12 mmol) of N-ethyl-N,N-diisopropylamine were added, and the solution was stirred at 20°C for 2 h. The solution was concentrated under reduced

pressure and purified by medium pressure column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 / CH_3OH : 9:1). This gave 0.19 g (54%) of N-(1-carbamoyl-2-phenylsulfanylethyl)-2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxamide.

Example 9:
3-Phenylaminoethyl-2-[(2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carbonyl)-amino]propionamide



a) L-2-Amino-3-phenylaminoethylpropionic acid
54.8 g (0.209 mol) of triphenylphosphine were suspended in 600 ml of acetonitrile and, with exclusion of moisture, cooled to –35°C to –45°C. At this temperature, 36.4 g (0.209 mol) of diethyl azodicarboxylate were then added dropwise over a period of 50 min. The mixture was stirred at –35°C for another 15 min. A solution of 50 g (0.209 mol) of N-benzyloxycarbonyl-L-serine in 500 ml of acetonitrile was added dropwise to this mixture, the temperature being kept below –35°C. The mixture was then allowed to react at 5°C for another 12 h and warmed to RT. The reaction solution was freed from solvent under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by medium pressure chromatography over silica gel (DCM/AcCN : 25/1). Removal of the solvent gave 20.8 g (yield 45%) of pure N-benzyloxycarbonyl-L-serine-ß-lactone (see also Org. Synth. 1991 (70) 1ff.) in fine needles. Empirical formula $C_{11}H_{11}NO_4$;M.W. = 221.2; MS (M+H) 222.1.

Under a protective atmosphere of argon, 15.5 ml (63.51 mmol) of N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide were added to 7.3 ml (57.36 mmol) of N-ethylaniline in 250 ml of acetonitrile, and the mixture was stirred at 50°C for 3 h. At 20°C, a solution of the above lactone (10.7 g, 48.37 mmol) dissolved in 250 ml of acetonitrile was then added, and the mixture was heated under reflux for 17 h. The solvent was removed and the residue was then admixed with saturated sodium carbonate solution, the pH of the

solution being kept below 9. The aqueous suspension was washed with a little diethyl ether and then acidified to a pH of from 6 to 7 using conc. hydrochloric acid, and adjusted to a pH of 5 using $NaHPO_4$ buffer. The aqueous solution was then extracted repeatedly with ethyl acetate. Evaporation of the solvents gave the desired product in a yield of 45% (7.4 g). Empirical formula $C_{19}H_{22}N_2O_4$; M.W. = 342.4; MS (M+H) 343.2.

At –10°C, 6.5 ml (89.1 mmol) of thionyl chloride were added dropwise to 75 ml of methanol, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. 8.6 g (25.12 mmol) of L-2-aminoethyl-3-phenylaminopropionic acid, dissolved in 75 ml of methanol, were then added and the mixture was stirred at –10°C for 30 minutes and at room temperature for a further 3 h. The solvents were evaporated and the residue was then taken up in ethyl acetate and washed with sodium carbonate solution. Evaporation of the solvent and purification by flash chromatography (n-heptan/ethyl acetate 7:3) gave 4.43 g (50% yield) of methyl L-2-aminoethyl-3-phenylaminopropionic acid. Empirical formula $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_4$; M.W. = 356.4; MS (M+H) 357.3.

To remove the protective group, 4.4 g (12.35 mmol) of the Z-protected derivative were dissolved in 500 ml of methanol, 100 mg of catalyst (10% $Pd(OH)_2$-C) were added under inert gas and hydrogen was introduced until the Z protective group had been cleaved off completely. The catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated, giving 2.8 g of L-2-aminoethyl-3-phenylaminopropionic acid (quantitative).
Empirical formula $C_{12}H_{18}N_2O_2$; M.W. = 223.3; MS (M+H) 223.1.

Process step b)

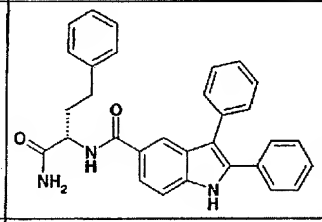
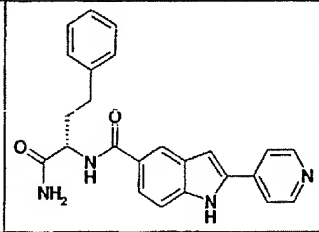
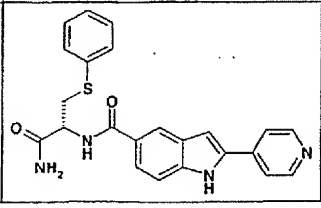
0.63 g (2.64 mmol) of 2-pyridin-4-yl-1H-indole-5-carboxylic acid, prepared as in process variant B), was suspended in 150 ml of DMF and admixed successively with 1.01 g (3.08 mmol) of TOTU and 0.63 ml (3.71 mmol) of ethyldiisopropylamine. The mixture was stirred at RT for 20 min, and 0.73 g (3.28 mmol) of methyl (S)-2-amino-3-phenylaminoethylpropionate, prepared according to a), was added to the resulting clear solution. The mixture was stirred under reduced pressure for 15 h and the methyl ester of the title compound was then isolated by flash chromatography over silica gel (DCM:MeOH= 19:1). Yield: 0.44 g, empirical formula $C_{26}H_{26}N_4O_3$; M.W. = 442.2; MS (M+H) 443.3.

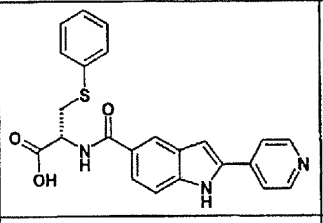
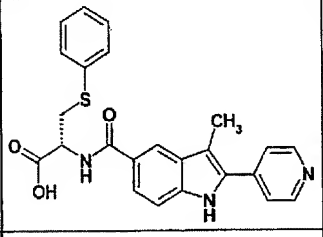
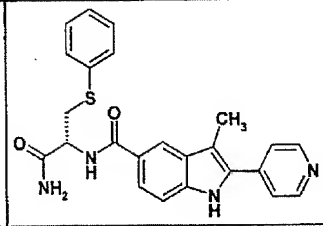
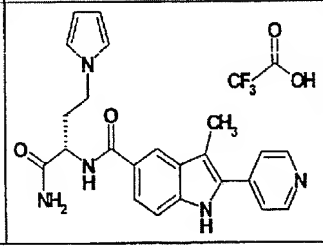
0.22 g (0.497 mmol) of the resulting methyl ester was dissolved in 100 ml of methanol and cooled to 0°C, and 1.5 h of ammonia were then

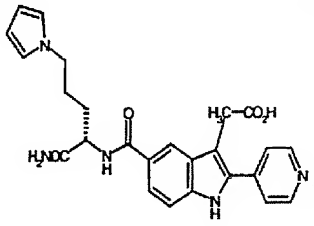
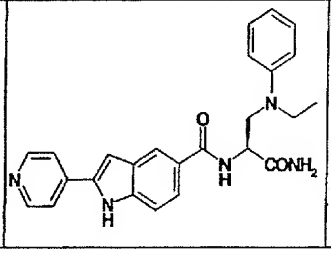
introduced. The solution was allowed to stand at room temperature overnight and the methanol was then evaporated. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel (DCM:MeOH= 19:1). Yield: 0.096 g (45.2%), empirical formula $C_{25}H_{25}N_5O_2$; M.W. = 427.2; MS (M+H) 428.3.

The compounds in Tables 1 and 3 below were prepared analogously to Processes A) to D). The compounds in Table 2 below were prepared by the methods described in PCT/EP00/10210, and their biological activity was determined as described in the examples of PCT/EP00/10210.

Table 1:

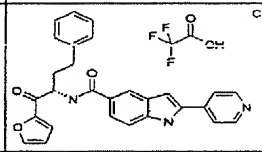
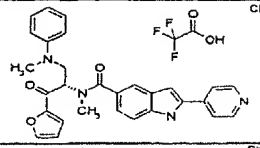
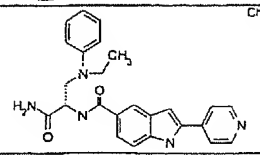
Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MS (M+ H)	Notes
1		M.W. = 473.58 $C_{31}H_{27}N_3O_2$	474.2	pr.v.: A) pr.v.:C)
2		M.W. = 398.46 $C_{24}H_{22}N_4O_2$	399.3	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)
3		M.W. = 416.50 $C_{23}H_{20}N_4O_2S$	417.1	pr.v.: A) pr.v.:D)

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MS (M+ H)	Notes
4		M.W. = 417.9 $C_{23}H_{19}N_3O_3S$	418.1	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)
5		M.W. = 431.51 $C_{24}H_{21}N_3O_3S$	432.1	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)
6		M.W. = 430.53 $C_{24}H_{22}N_4O_2S$	431.2	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)
7		M.W. = 516.47 $C_{23}H_{22}N_4O_3 \cdot C_2HF_3O_2$	403.2	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
8		M.W. = 475.50 $C_{24}H_{25}N_5O_2 \cdot C_2H_4O_2$	416.5	pr.v.: B) pr.v.:C)
9		M.W. = 427.2; $C_{25}H_{25}N_5O_2$	428.3	

pr.v. = process variant

Table 2

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MS (M+H)
10		$C_{28}H_{23}N_3O_3$ MW = 563.53	564.6
11		C29H26N4O3 MW = 592.571	593.4
12		C25H25N5O2 MW = 427.505	428.60

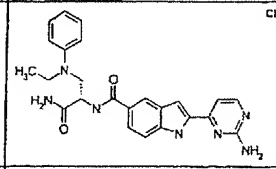
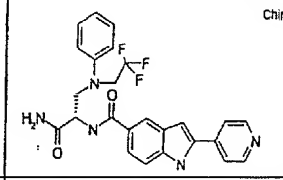
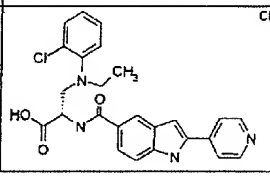
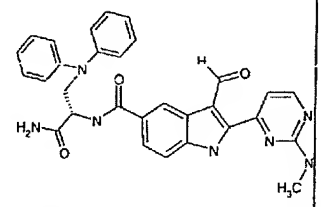
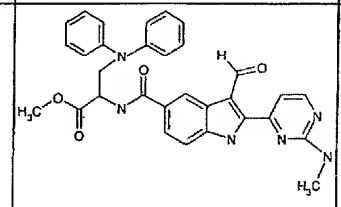
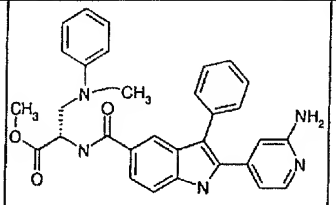
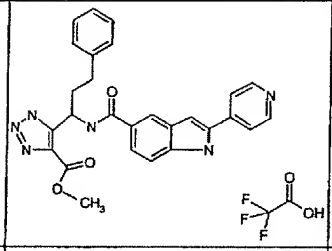
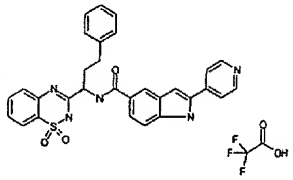
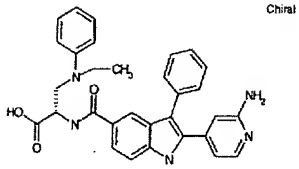
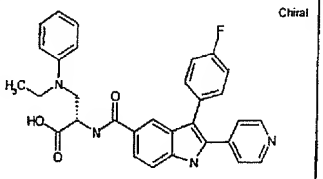
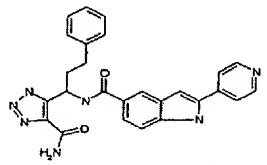
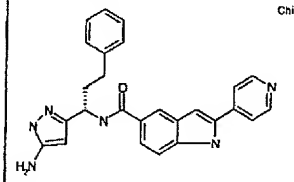
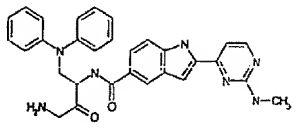
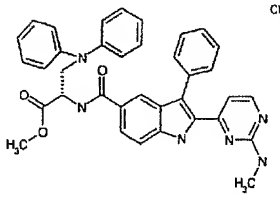
Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MS (M+H)
13	 Chiral	$C_{24}H_{25}N_7O_2$ MW = 443.509	444.30
14	 Chiral	C25H22F3N5O2 MW = 481.476	482.50
15	 Chiral	C25H23ClN4O3 MW = 462.935	463.80

Table 3

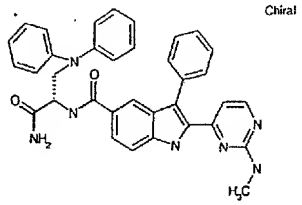
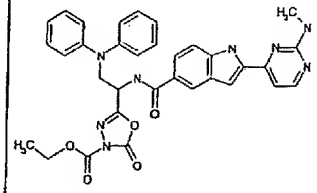
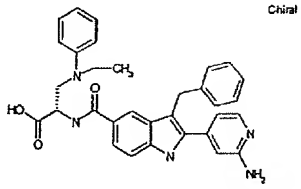
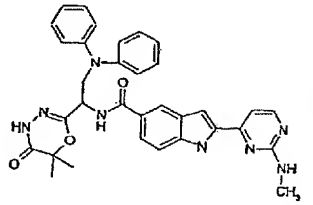
Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
16		$C_{30}H_{27}N_7O_3$	533.6	534.6
17		$C_{30}H_{27}N_7O_3$	548.6	549.6

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
18		$C_{30}H_{27}N_7O_3$	533.6	534.6
19		$C_{30}H_{27}N_7O_3$	480.5	481.5
20		$C_{30}H_{25}N_5O_3S$	535.6	536.6
21	 Chiral	$C_{31}H_{29}N_5O_3$	519.6	520.6

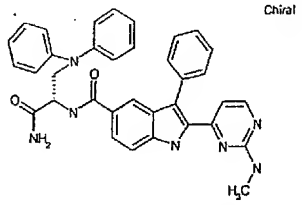
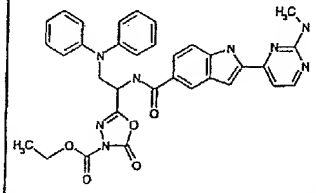
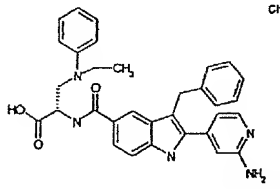
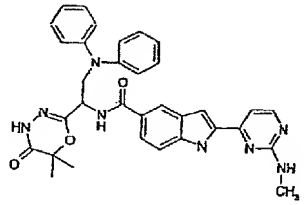
29c

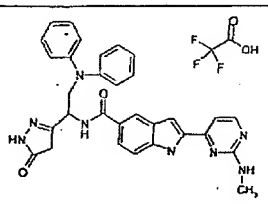
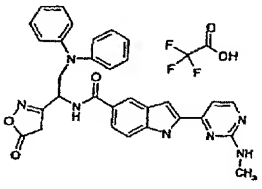
Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
22	 Chiral	$C_{31}H_{27}FN4O_3$	522.6	523.6
23	 CH	$C_{26}H_{23}N_7O_2$	465.5	466.5
24	 Chiral	$C_{26}H_{24}N_6O$	436.5	437.5
25		$C_{30}H_{29}N_7O_2$	519.6	520.6
26	 Chiral	$C_{36}H_{32}N_6O_3$	596.7	597.7

29d

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
27	 Chiral	$C_{35}H_{31}N_7O_2$	581.7	582.7
28		$C_{33}H_{30}N_8O_5$	618.7	619.7
29	 Chiral	$C_{32}H_{31}N_5O_3$	533.6	534.6
30		$C_{33}H_{32}N_8O_3$	588,7	589,7

29d

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
27	 Chiral	$C_{35}H_{31}N_7O_2$	581.7	582.7
28		$C_{33}H_{30}N_8O_5$	618.7	619.7
29	 Chiral	$C_{32}H_{31}N_5O_3$	533.6	534.6
30		$C_{33}H_{32}N_8O_3$	588,7	589,7

Example	Structure	Empirical formula	MW	MS
31		$C_{31}H_{28}N_8O_2$	544,6	545,6
32		$C_{31}H_{27}N_7O_3$	545,6	546,6

Pharmaceutical test results:

Kinase inhibition: IC50 in μM

Example	IKK IC50 ImM ATP	IKK IC50 50μM ATP
30	0,029	0,0058
31	0,7605	
32	0,379	

Pharmacological Examples IκB kinase ELISA:

The activity of the IκB kinase was determined using an ELISA comprising a biotinilated substrate peptide containing the amino acid sequence in the protein IκB of serines 32 to 36 and a specific poly- or monoclonal antibody (for example from New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA, USA, cat.: 9240), which binds only to the phosphorylated form of the peptide IκB. This complex was immobilized on an antibody-binding plate (coated with protein A) and detected using a conjugate of a biotin-binding protein and HRP (for example streptavidine HRP). The activity could be quantified using a standard curve with substrate phosphopeptide.

Procedure:

To obtain the kinase complex, 10 ml of HeLa S3 cell extract S100 were diluted with 40 ml 50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, adjusted to 40% ammonium sulfate and incubated on ice for 30 minutes. The precipitated pellet was dissolved in 5 ml SEC buffer (50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 1 mM DTT, 0.5 mM EDTA, 10 mM 2-glycerophosphate), centrifuged at 20,000 x g for 15 minutes and filtered through a 0.22 µm filter. The sample was applied to a

320 ml Superose-6 FPLC column (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech AB, Uppsala, Sweden) which had been equilibrated with SEC buffer and was operated at a flow rate of 2 ml/min at 4°C. The fractions which corresponded to the elution time of the 670 kDa molecular weight standard were combined for activation. Activation was achieved by a 45-minute-incubation with 100 nM MEKK1Δ, 250 µM MgATP, 10 mM $MgCl_2$, 5 mM dithiothreitol (DTT), 10 mM 2-glycerophosphate, 2.5 µM microcystin LR at 37°C. The activated enzyme was stored at –80°C.

The test substances, dissolved in DMSO (2 µl), were preincubated at 25°C with 43 µl of activated enzyme (diluted 1:25 in reaction buffer 50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 10 mM $MgCl_2$, 5 mM DTT, 10 mM ß-glycerophosphate, 2.5 µM microcystin LR) for 30 minutes. 5 µl of substrate peptide (biotin-$(CH_2)_6$-DRHDSGLDSMKD-$CONH_2$) (200 µM) were added, the mixture was incubated for one hour and the reaction was quenched using 150 µl of 50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 0.1% BSA, 50 mM EDTA, antibody [1:200]. 100 µl of the quenched reaction mixture or a standard phosphopeptide dilution series (biotin-$(CH_2)_6$-DRHDS[PO_3]GLDSMKD-$CONH_2$) were then transferred to a protein A plate (Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, IL, USA) and incubated with shaking for 2 hours.

After 3 washing steps with PBS, 100 µl of 0.5 µg/ml of streptavidin HRP (horseradish peroxidase) (diluted in 50 mM HEPES/ 0.1% BSA) were added for 30 minutes. After 5 washing steps with PBS, 100 µl of TMB substrate (Kirkegaard & Perry Laboratories, Gaithersburg, MD, USA) were added and the development of color was stopped by addition of 100 µl of 0.18 M sulfuric acid. Absorption was measured at 450 nm. The standard curve was generated by linear regression according to a 4-parameter dose-activity relation. Using this standard curve, the enzyme activity or their inhibition by test substances was quantified.

Method PKA, PKC, CK II

cAMP-dependent protein kinase (PKA), protein kinase C (PKC) and casein kinase II (CK II) were determined using the corresponding test kits of Upstate Biotechnologie according to the instructions of the manufacturer at an ATP concentration of 50 µM. However, instead of phosphocellulose filters, multi-screen plates (Millipore; Phosphocellulose MS-PH, cat. MAPHNOB10) with the corresponding aspiration system were used. The plates were then measured in a Wallac MicroBeta scintillation counter. In each case, 100 µM of test substance were used.

Each substance was tested in duplicate. The mean of the blank (without enzyme) was subtracted from the means (enzyme with and without

substances), and the inhibition in % was calculated. IC_{50} calculations were carried out using the software package GraFit 3.0. The results are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Kinase inhibition at a substance concentration of 100 μM or IC_{50} in μM

Example number	IκB kinase IC_{50}	PKA % inhibition	PKC % inhibition	CK II % inhibition
1	32	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
2	0.61	24	15	35
3	0.55	35	39	37
4	0.50	42	33	47
5	1.8	55	8	27
6	4.9	60	58	39
7	3.0	n.d.	n.d.	18
9	1.0	0	23	0

n.d. means not determined.

The biological activity of the compounds of Examples 10 to 15 were determined. The results are set out in Table 5 below:

Table 5

Example	IkB kinase IC_{50}	PKA % Inhibition at 100 µM	PKC % Inhibition at 100 µM	CKII % Inhibition at 100 µM
10	0.50	21.00	42.00	15.00
11	1.40	-16.00	73.00	61.00
12	0.81	0.00	1.00	-9.00
13	0.15	21.00	67.00	43.00
14	0.15	21.00	29.00	-19.00
15	0.36	11.00	28.00	-24.00

Further experiments were conducted, this time with respect to the compounds of Examples 16 to 29 above wherein testing was performed in accordance with the above methods (the results of which are set out in Table 4 above) except that the testing was performed in the presence of 50μM ATP or 1mM ATP, instead of 250μM MgATP as described above. The results are shown in Table 6 below.

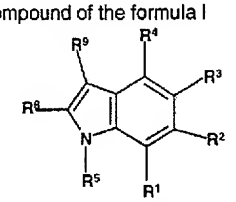
Table 6: Kinase inhibition

Example	IKK IC50 1mM ATP	IKK IC50 50μM ATP
16	93	
17	23	
18		3.9
19		0.62
20		10
21		0.575
22		0.75
23		0.8633
24		19.1
25	36.23	
26	0.2248	
27	31.09	
28	0.7273	
29		0.047

Comprises/comprising and grammatical variations thereof when used in this specification are to be taken to specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps or components or groups thereof, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, components or groups thereof.

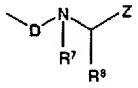
THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A compound of the formula I



(I)

and/or a stereoisomeric form of the compound of the formula I and/or a physiologically acceptable salt of the compound of the formula I, where each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen,
R^3 is a radical of the formula II



(II)

in which D is –C(O)-,
R^7 is hydrogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,
R^8 is R^9 or the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, serine, tryptophan, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, histidine, arginine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid, 2-aminoadipic acid, 2-aminoisobutyric acid, 2-aminobutyric acid, 2,3-diaminopropionic acid, 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carboxylic acid, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-3-carboxylic acid, 2-aminopimelic acid, phenylglycine, 3-(2-thienyl)alanine, 3-(3-thienyl)alanine, 2-(2-thienyl)glycine, 2-aminoheptanoic acid, pipecolinic acid, hydroxylysine, sarcosine, N-methylisoleucine, 6-N-methyllysine, N-methylvaline, norvaline, norleucine, ornithine, allo-isoleucine, allo-threonine, allo-hydroxylysine, 4-hydroxyproline, 3-hydroxyproline, 3-(2-naphthyl)alanine, 3-(1-naphthyl)alanine, homophenylalanine, homocysteine, homocysteic acid, homotryptophan, cysteic acid, 3-(2-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(3-pyridyl)alanine, 3-(4-pyridyl)alanine,

2-amino-3-phenylaminopropionic acid, 2-amino-3-phenylaminoethylpropionic acid, phosphinothricine, 4-fluorophenylalanine, 3-fluorophenylalanine, 2-fluorophenylalanine, 4-chlorophenylalanine, 4-nitrophenylalanine, 4-aminophenylalanine, citrulline, cyclohexylalanine, 5-fluorotryptophan, 5-methoxytryptophan, methionine sulfone, methionine sulfoxide and $-NH-NR^{10}-C(O)N(R^{10})_2$,

R^9 is 1. aryl, where aryl is a radical selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, biphenylyl, anthryl or fluorenyl and the aryl radical is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted by identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of -$(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl, -$(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, such as hydroxymethyl or 1-hydroxyethyl or 2-hydroxyethyl, methylenedioxy, ethylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, -$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy or tetrazolyl,

2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is a radial of a monocyclic or polycyclic aromatic system having 5 to 14 ring members and containing 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S as ring members, where a plurality of heteroatoms may be identical or different and the heteroaryl radical is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted by identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of -$(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl, -$(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, $-N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, methylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, -$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy and tetrazolyl,

3. a heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is a monocyclic or bicyclic 5-membered to 12-membered heterocyclic ring which is partially saturated or fully saturated and contains heteroatoms

selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and where the heterocycle is unsubstitued or substituted on one or more carbon atoms or on one or more heteroatoms by identical or different radicals selected from the consisting of $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkyl, $-(C_1-C_8)$-alkoxy, halogen, nitro, $-N(R^{10})_2$, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, methylenedioxy, formyl, acetyl, cyano, hydoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkoxy-carbonyl, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy and tetrazolyl, or

4. $-(C_1-C_6)$-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by

4.1 aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.2 heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.3 heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,

4.4 $-O-R^{10}$,

4.5 =O,

4.6 halogen,

4.7 -CN,

4.8 $-CF_3$,

4.9 $-S(O)_x-R^{10}$, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,

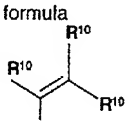
4.10 $-C(O)-O-R^{10}$,

4.11 $-C(O)-N(R^{10})_2$,

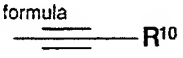
4.12 $-N(R^{10})_2$,

4.13 $-(C_3-C_6)$-cycloalkyl,

4.14 radical of the formula



4.15 radical of the formula



5. hydrogen,

R^{10} is a) hydrogen,

b) -(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by

1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above,
4. halogen,
5. -N-(C_1-C_6)$_n$-alkyl, where n is the integer zero, 1 or 2 and alkyl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or by -COOH, or
6. -COOH,

c) aryl, where aryl is as defined above,

d) heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or

e) heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above, and,

in the case of $(R^{10})_2$ R^{10}, independently of one another, has the meaning of a) to e),

Z is

1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above, or
4. -C(O)-R^{11}, where

R^{11} is 1. –O-R^{10} or

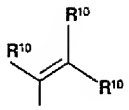
2. –N(R^{10})$_2$, or

R^5 is 1. hydrogen,
2. -OH or
3. =O, and

R^6 is 1. aryl, where aryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or substituted as above,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above.

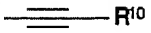
2. A compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen,
R^3 is a radical of the formula II, in which

D is -C(O)-,
R^7 is hydrogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,
R^8 is 1. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by
1.1 heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members or heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heteroaryl and heterocycle were selected from the group consisting of pyrrole, pyridine, pyrazine, furan, thiophen, imidazole, pyrazole, oxazole, isoxazole, thiazole, isothiazole, tetrazole, triazolones, 1,2,3,5-oxathiadiazole 2-oxides, oxadiazolones, isoxazolones, oxadiazolidindiones, triazoles, which are substituted by F, -CN, -CF_3 or -C(O)-O-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, 3-hydroxypyrro-2,4-diones, 5-oxo-1,2,4-thiadiazoles, pyrimidine, indole, isoindole, indazole, phthalazine, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, -carboline and benzo-fused, cyclopenta-, cyclohexa- and cycloheptafused derivatives of these heterocycles derived,
1.2 -O-R^{10},
1.3 -$S(O)_x$-R^{10}, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,
1.4 -$N(R^{10})_2$,
1.5 radical of the formula



or

1.6 radical of the formula



or

2. is the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of histidine, tryptophan, serine, threanine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid,

R^9 is 1. R^8,

2. is -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is, independently of one another, mono-, di- or trisubstituted by

2.1 aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1 and is unsubstituted or substituted as in claim 1,

2.2 halogen,

2.3 –CN or

2.4 $-CF_3$,

3. aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1 and is unsubstituted or substituted as in claim 1, or

4. hydrogen,

R^{10} is a) hydrogen,

b) -(C_1-C_8)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by

1. aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1,
2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above,
3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above,
4. halogen,
5. -N-(C_1-C_6)$_n$-alkyl, where n is the integer zero, 1 or 2 and alkyl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or by –C(O)-OH, or

6. -C(O)-OH,

c) aryl, where aryl is as defined in claim 1,

d) heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above, or

e) heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above, and,

in the case of $(R^{10})_2$, R^{10}, independently of one another, has the meaning of a) to e),

Z is 1. 1,3,4-oxadiazole, where 1,3,4-oxadiazole is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted by $-NH_2$, OH or $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl or

2. $-C(O)-R^{11}$, in which

R^{11} is 1. $-O-R^{10}$ or

2. $-N(R^{10})_2$, or

R^5 is hydrogen and

R^6 is 1. phenyl, mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by

1.1 -CN,

1.2 $-CF_3$ or

1.3 halogen,

1.4 $-O-R^{10}$,

1.5 $-N(R^{10})_2$,

1.6 $-NH-C(O)-R^{11}$,

1.7 $-S(O)_x-R^{10}$, where x is the integer zero, 1 or 2,

1.8 $-C(O)-R^{11}$ or

1.9 $-(C_1-C_4)$-alkyl-NH_2,

2. heteroaryl having 5 to 14 ring members, where heteroaryl is as defined above and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by the substituents defined above under 1.1 to 1.9 or

3. heterocycle having 5 to 12 ring members, where heterocycle is as defined above and is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by the substituents defined above under 1.1 to 1.9.

3. A compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein each of the substituents R^1, R^2 and R^4 is hydrogen, R^3 is a radical of the formula II, in which

D is -C(O)-,

R^7 is hydrogen,

Z is -C(O)-OH or -C(O)-NH_2,

R^8 is 1. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono- or disubstituted, independently of one another, by

1.1 -S(O)-R^{10}, where R^{10} is as defined below,

1.2 -N(R^{10})$_2$, where R^{10} is as defined below, or

1.3 pyrrole or

2. is the characteristic radical of an amino acid selected from the group consisting of histidine, tryptophan, serine, threonine, cysteine, methionine, asparagine, glutamine, lysine, arginine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid,

R^9 is 1. hydrogen,

2. -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, where alkyl is straight-chain or branched and is mono-, di- or trisubstituted, independently of one another, by –C(O)-OH, -OH or -C(O)-NH_2, or

3. phenyl, where phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or –(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

R^{10} is a) hydrogen,

b) -(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, where alkyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen,

c) phenyl, where phenyl is unsubstituted or mono- to trisubstituted, independently of one another, by halogen or -(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

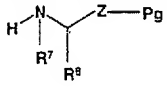
R^5 is hydrogen, and

R^6 is phenyl or pyridine.

4. A substituted indole which is substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to a compound prepared in any one of examples 1 to 9.

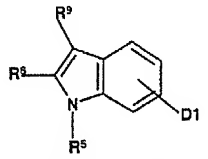
5. A process for preparing the compound of the formula I as claimed in any one or more of claims 1 to 3, which process comprises

a) reacting a compound of the formula IV,



(IV)

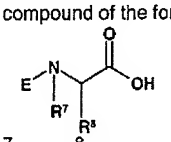
in which Pg is a suitable protective group (for example methyl ester), an amide group or a hydroxyl group and Z, R^7 and R^8 are as defined in formula I, with an acyl chloride or an activated ester of the compound of the formula III,



(III)

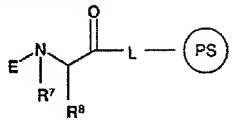
where D1 is –COOH or sulfonyl halogen and R^5, R^6 and R^9 are as defined in formula I, in the presence of a base or, if appropriate, of a dehydrating agent in solution and, after removal of the protective group, converting into a compound of the formula I, or

b) reacting a compound of the formula IVa,



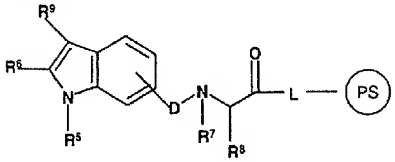
(IVa)

in which R^7 and R^8 are as defined in formula I and E is an N-amino protective group, with its carbonyl group coupled via an intermediate chain L to a polymeric resin of the formula PS, a compound of the formula V



(V)

resulting, which, after selective removal of the protective group E, is reacted with a compound of the formula III, where R^5, R^6 and R^9 are as defined in formula I, in the presence of a base or, if appropriate, of a dehydrating agent to give a compound of the formula VI



(VI)

and converting the compound of the formula VI, after cleavage from the support material, into a compound of the formula I, or

c) converting a compound of the formula I into a physiologically acceptable salt.

6. A pharmaceutical comprising an efficacious amount of at least one compound of the formula I as claimed in any one or more of claims 1 to 4 together with a pharmaceutically suitable and physiologically acceptable excipient, additive and/or other active compounds and auxiliaries.

7. The use of at least one compound of the formula I as claimed in any one or more of claims 1 to 4 for preparing pharmaceuticals for the prophylaxis and therapy of disorders in the course of which an increased activity of NFκB is involved.

8. The use as claimed in claim 7 for the treatment of conditions selected from: chronic disorders of the locomotor apparatus; degenerative joint disorders; disorders of the connective tissue; disorders caused by overexpression of tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNFα) or increased concentration of TNFα; atherosclerosis; stenoses; ulceration; Alzheimer's disease; muscle wasting; carcinomatous disorders (potentiation of therapies with cytotoxic compounds); myocardial infarction; gout, sepsis; septic shock; endotoxic shock; viral infections; disorders caused by adenoviruses or herpes viruses, parasitic infections; leprosy; fungal infections or yeast infections; meningitis; chronic inflammatory lung diseases; acute respiratory distress syndrome; acute synovitis; tuberculosis; psoriasis; diabetes; acute or chronic rejection responses of the organ recipient to the transplanted organ; chronic graft-versus-host disorders and inflammatory vascular disorders.

9. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein the chronic disorders of the locomotor apparatus are selected from inflammatory, immunological or metabolic acute and chronic arthritic disorders, arthropathies and rheumatoid arthritis.

10. The use as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9 wherein the degenerative joint disorders are selected from osteoarthroses, spondyloses, cartilage

breakdown following joint trauma or prolonged immobilization of a joint after meniscus patella injuries and desmorrhexis.

11. The use as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 10 wherein disorders of the connective tissue are selected from collagenoses and periodontal disorders, myalgias and disturbances of the bone metabolism.

12. The use as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 11 wherien disorders caused by overexpression of tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNFα) or increased concentration of TNFα are selected from cachexia, multiple sclerosis, skull-brain trauma, Crohn's disease and intestinal tumours.

13. The use as claimed in any one of claim 8 to 12 wherein the viral infections are selected from flu, hepatitis, HIV infections and AIDS.

14. The use as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 13 wherein the parasitic infection is malaria.

15. The use as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 13 wherein the chronic inflammatory lung diseases are selected from chronic bronchitis and asthma.

16. A method which includes administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of the formula I as claimed in any one or more of claims 1 to 4 or of a pharmaceutical as claimed in claim 6, which method is for the prophylaxis or treatment of disorders in a patient in the course of which an increased activity of NF_kB is involved.

17. The method as claimed in claim 16 for the treatment of conditions selected from chronic disorders of the locomotor apparatus; degenerative joint disorders; disorders of the connective tissue; disorders caused by overexpression of tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNFα) or increased concentration of TNFα; atherosclerosis; stenoses; ulceration; Alzheimer's disease; muscle wasting; carcinomatous disorders (potentiation of therapies with cytotoxic compounds); myocardial infarction; gout, sepsis; septic shock; endotoxic shock; viral infections; disorders caused by adenoviruses or herpes viruses, parasitic infections; leprosy; fungal infections or yeast infections;

meningitis; chronic inflammatory lung diseases; acute respiratory distress syndrome; acute synovitis; tuberculosis; psoriasis; diabetes; acute or chronic rejection responses of the organ recipient to the transplanted organ; chronic graft-versus-host disorders and inflammatory vascular disorders.

18. The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the chronic disorders of the locomotor apparatus are selected from inflammatory, immunological or metabolic acute and chronic arthritic disorders, arthropathies and rheumatoid arthritis.

19. The method as claimed in claim 17 or claim 18 wherein the degenerative joint disorders are selected from osteoarthroses, spondyloses, cartilage breakdown following joint trauma or prolonged immobilization of a joint after meniscus patella injuries and desmorrhexis.

20. The method as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 19 wherein disorders of the connective tissue are selected from collagenoses and periodontal disorders, myalgias and disturbances of the bone metabolism.

21. The method as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 20 wherein disorders caused by overexpression of tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNFα) or increased concentration of TNFα are selected from cachexia, multiple sclerosis, skull-brain trauma, Crohn's disease and intestinal tumours.

22. The method as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 21 wherein the viral infections are selected from flu, hepatitis, HIV infections and AIDS.

23. The method as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 22 wherein the parasitic infection is malaria.

24. The method as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 23 wherein the chronic inflammatory lung diseases are selected from chronic bronchitis and asthma.

25. A process for preparing a pharmaceutical, which process comprises bringing at least one compound of the formula I as claimed in any one or more of claims 1 to 4 into a suitable administration form using a

pharmaceutically suitable and physiologically acceptable excipient and, if appropriate, further suitable active compounds, additives or auxiliaries.

DATED this 16th day of February 2005

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